

Hunting and Trapping

Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions.

- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Please refer to Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey booklets for current regulations.
- Only portable stands are allowed from September 1 through January 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled on durable material with the full name and address or Conservation number of the owner and be removed from the area by February 1st. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Decoys and blinds permitted but must be disassembled and removed daily. Blinds may be constructed on-site only from willows (*Salicaceae*) and nonwoody vegetation.
- Trapping allowed only with special use permit. Contact area manager.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.



For local information, contact:
Missouri Department of Conservation
USDA Service Center
1315 E. Main
Linn, MO 65051
(573) 897-3797

OR

Missouri Department of Conservation
Central Regional Office
3500 E Gans Road
Columbia, MO 65201
(573) 815-7900

Visit us at:
www.mdc.mo.gov

*Additional area information is posted on our website
and on bulletin boards located in parking lots and
area offices.*

9/2021

(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are in Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code. A free printed copy of the Wildlife Code, which lists most area regulations, is available from the Conservation Department. Chapter 11 in its entirety is available at www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csn/current/3csr/3csr.asp.) Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, (573) 751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

Clifty Creek

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION



About this Area

Clifty Creek Conservation Area (256 acres) and Clifty Creek Natural Area (230 acres) are 6 miles northeast of Dixon at the end of Route W.

Clifty Creek Conservation Area and Clifty Creek Natural Area are adjacent to one another and combined offer the public 486 acres in Maries County to enjoy. These areas are located at the end of Route W, six miles northeast of Dixon. Due to the rugged terrain in this part of the state, much of this area has seen little change since settlement times and due to the lack of fire has developed into an overstocked forest. Settlers found only the extreme southern and a few northern portions of the area level enough for cultivation. A 6-car parking lot for the area is found on Maries County Road 511. In 1984, The Donald Walker Trust donated 156 acres to the Conservation Department, which later purchased 100 additional acres to form the conservation area. The conservation area and the adjacent Clifty Creek Natural Area, owned by the L-A-D Foundation provide crucial watershed protection for Clifty and Little Clifty creeks which run through the areas. One of the

more dramatic features of Clifty Creek Natural Area is a natural bridge with a span of about 40 feet that was created by a tributary of Clifty Creek carving through Gasconade dolomite. The areas also contain oak-hickory forest, mixed bottomland forest, limestone glades and cliffs and sandstone glades. A very scenic 2.5 mile loop hiking trail leads from the conservation area parking lot to the natural bridge and back. A hiker can choose to take the loop, or can choose to go and come from the arch via the same trail portion. The trail has an intersection 1/10th of a mile from the parking lot. The right fork in the trail is an additional 1 mile to the arch; if you choose the left fork the arch is 1.4 miles away - one way. Both forks are very scenic and traverse some very interesting natural features. This trail was completed in the fall of 2008, through funding from the Conservation Department, the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation, the LAD Foundation and the Department of Natural Resources via the Recreational Trails Program of the federal government. In addition to these contributors volunteers from around the state built the trail entirely by hand. A hiker should have appropriate foot wear, water and be in good enough physical condition to walk the moderately difficult trail. The difference in elevation from the parking lot to the bottom of the arch is about 200 feet, however due to the terrain; the change in elevation exceeds 200 feet as the hiker moves up and down the lay of the land in route to the arch.

Recreational Opportunities

*Bird Watching – Camping – Hiking – Hunting
Outdoor Photography – Wildlife Viewing*

Rules and Regulations

*Open for public use from 4:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.;
hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, dog training,
launching and landing boats allowed 24 hours a day
on areas where these activities are permitted.*

- Groups of more than 10 and some special activities may require a special use permit. Contact the area manager for more information.
- Walk-in/backpack camping is allowed. No amenities are provided.
- Camping is subject to seasonal closures, and restrictions may apply. Stays are limited to a period of fourteen (14) consecutive days in any thirty (30)-day period. Groups of more than 10 campers require a special use permit.
- All campfires must be attended.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, edible wild greens and mushrooms may be taken only for personal use; however, taking wild greens is not permitted in the designated Natural Area.
- Digging roots is prohibited.
- Pets and hunting dogs are permitted but must be on a leash or confined at all time. Hunting dogs may be used off the leash and unconfined for hunting and training purposes. A hunting permit is required to train dogs in pursuit of wildlife.
- Fishing and frogging are allowed under state-wide regulations.
- No bicycling or horseback riding opportunities except on public roadways.
- Vehicles are only permitted on public roadways and in parking lots.
- Fireworks are prohibited.